

**SENATE—Monday, March 15, 1999**

The Senate met at 12 noon, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

**PRAYER**

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we thank You for Your blessing and care for the Senators and the crucial work of this Senate. We praise You for the way the Senators of both parties worked together on the passage of the educational legislation last Thursday. May this spirit of co-operation continue as the strategic legislation of this week is considered. As the Senators do their work here, continue to bless their families. Watch over them with Your gracious protection. Also, we thank You for all the people who work to make the Senate run smoothly: the officers of the Senate, the Senators' staffs, the many Senate staff departments, the police officers, the reporters of debate, the pages, those who run the subways and elevators, the food service people, and the custodial staff. Give each person a renewed sense of his or her importance in the effectiveness of the operation of the Senate. Keep us all working together as a family of loyal Americans privileged to serve our Nation. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

**RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER**

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The distinguished Senator from Oklahoma, Senator INHOFE, is recognized.

**SCHEDULE**

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, following morning business, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 257, the missile defense bill. The majority leader has announced there will be no roll-call votes during today's session. However, Members are encouraged to come to the floor and offer amendments in relation to the missile defense bill. Any rollcall votes ordered today on amendments will be postponed to occur on Tuesday at a time to be determined by the two leaders.

I thank my colleagues for their attention.

**RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME**

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROBERTS). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

**MORNING BUSINESS**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a

period for the transaction of morning business, not to extend beyond the hour of 3 p.m.

Under the previous order, the Senator from Oklahoma is recognized to speak for up to 30 minutes.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be recognized for up to 35 minutes in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Hearing none, without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. INHOFE. I ask unanimous consent that at the conclusion of my remarks Senator ORRIN HATCH be recognized for 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator is recognized.

**CHINA'S THEFT OF NUCLEAR SECRETS**

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I want you to listen. I am going to tell you a story of espionage, conspiracy, deception, and coverup, a story with life and death implications for millions of Americans, a story about national security, and a President and an administration that deliberately chose to put national security at risk, while telling everyone that everything was fine.

If it was written in a book, Mr. President, it wouldn't sell, because no one would believe it. If it was fictionalized in a novel, few could conceive it. But it is true.

For the sake of my statement today, I am stating that the President withheld information and covered up the Chinese theft of our technology. But I am realistic enough to know that a person with the history of deception this President has will have provided himself with some cover in case he got caught. So I am sure there is a paper trail that he can allege. The way the President probably covered himself was to include tidbits about this theft buried in briefings of 40 or 50 other items so the significance of it would not be noticed. But a paper trail would be established.

Anticipating that, I, over the weekend, talked to the chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, Congressman PORTER GOSS, and the chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee at the time of the discovery of this secret, this information, Senator ARLEN SPECTER. Neither chairman was notified of the W-88 nuclear warhead technology theft. And these would have been the first to be notified, Mr. President.

There can be no doubt that President Clinton engaged in a coverup scheme.

Let me read three paragraphs from last week's op-ed article by Michael Kelly in the Washington Post, entitled "Lies About China." I am quoting now, Mr. President:

In April 1996, Energy Department officials informed Samuel Berger, then Clinton's deputy national security advisor, that Notra Trulock, the department's chief of intelligence, had uncovered evidence that showed China had learned how to miniaturize nuclear bombs, allowing for smaller, more lethal warheads . . .

Further quoting:

The Times reports that the House Intelligence Committee asked Trulock for a briefing in July 1998. Trulock asked for permission from Elizabeth Moler, then acting energy secretary. According to Trulock, Moler told him not to brief the committee because the information might be used against Clinton's China policy. . .

Further quoting:

The White House's secret would have remained secret had it not been for a select investigative committee headed by Republican [Representative] Christopher Cox. . .

But even using the President's fictitious paper trail, the earliest either chairman could have known about it would have been late in the spring of 1997, years after the Clinton administration learned of it and, of course, after the 1996 election.

I start, Mr. President, by listing a few things which we now know to be true, factual, incontrovertible, and nonclassified.

For years, the Clinton administration covered up China's interest of top secret U.S. nuclear weapons data. They never informed the Congress or the American people about what had happened or its significance to our national security.

Let me tell you what President Clinton did during this period of time.

During this period of time, the President misled the American people on numerous occasions about the threat posed by strategic nuclear missiles in the post-cold-war era.

During this period of time, President Clinton made statements on over 130 separate occasions, such as the following:—and I am quoting—

For the first time since the dawn of the nuclear age, there is not a single solitary nuclear missile pointed at an American child tonight. Not one. Not a single one.

During this period of time, he knew that China was targeting up to 18 intercontinental ballistic missiles at American children.

During this period of time, President Clinton signed export control waivers which allowed his top campaign fundraisers' aerospace company to transfer sensitive U.S. missile guidance technology to China.